

The Ontario Argus
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Published Thursdays at Ontario, Oregon, and entered at the Ontario post office for distribution as 2nd class matter.

ARGUS PRINTING COMPANY
Publishers

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SUBSCRIPTION.....One Year, \$2.00

SPORTSMANSHIP.

It is to be regretted that the people of Ontario had to witness the exhibition of poor sportsmanship that the Weiser base ball team put up at the Fair grounds last Sunday afternoon. Such exhibitions are bad for the game, bad for town and do no good for anyone connected with the sport.

Without entering into the rules of the game which the Weiser men claimed were violated, it must be remembered that if Ontario's pitcher was delivering an illegal ball in the second inning, he was doing so in the first; when no protest was made.

As a matter of fact there are no mightily few semi-professional pitchers who can use effectively the freak delivery which Weiser alleged that Malloy was using and the effort to use them results more often in wild pitches than in baffled batsmen. He that as it may, however, it was evident that the Weiser team and its followers who came to make the game an occasion for gambling on the results, were perfectly willing to proceed until they were scored against—up to that point no kick was made—but when four of their seven batsmen fanned, the howl was raised.

Perhaps the real trouble arose over the fact that there was too much money up on the contest—that is always a fruitful source of trouble in every sport. If some of the sports must bet on the games the least they can do is to keep the matter to themselves; take their own chances and not interfere with the game which the public in general paid good money to see.

The Argus knows that the management of the local team has tried to give the fans here a good base ball team.

There is no deception being made. The management does not profess that the men on the team are "home grown," or that they have been long residents of the city. They are ball players and they are living and working in Ontario now—base ball is a side line with them, that is all. If Weiser, Vale and Parma insist on the home grown brand, then Ontario, apparently will have to permit them to have their way and part company. There is nothing else to be done about it.

To square the game with the local fans who paid to see a ball game and were allowed only two innings, and not even given a good fight to take its place—if there is such a thing—the home team should schedule a game with some good team and make the admission free and thus give the people a run for their money. That would be good sportsmanship, and would make friends for the team, the management and the game.

ELLIS-HURLEY-CRANDALL.

The most interesting contest in the May primaries, so far as Malheur, Grant and Harney counties are concerned is that for the senatorship representing them in the legislature. Until last week the people of Ontario and Malheur county generally were acquainted with two of the candidates, for Messrs. Hurley and Crandall are both residents of Vale and were together in the legislature during the 1917 session when the first road legislation was adopted, and the original outline of state highways was drawn.

During the past week Charles W. Ellis, of Burns, who is the other

candidate for the place, visited Malheur county and got acquainted with a great many of the residents. This makes the race more interesting, for it is evident that in Mr. Ellis the men from Vale each have a worthy opponent who is big enough for the job, possessed of personality and ability, together with a knowledge of the district and an interest in all its institutions.

That the entry of Mr. Ellis into the race creates a problem for those who "play politics" in Malheur county must be admitted. It is apparent in the fact that Mr. Crandall entered the race that Senator Hurley has not the united support of his home town, and that therefore the vote in Ontario, Nyssa, Dead Ox Flat, and Jordan Valley will have in a large measure the determination of the outcome of the balloting on May 21.

What is worrying politicians the most these days, that is the comparative few who follow these issues; how will the entry of Mr. Crandall effect the contest between Mr. Ellis and Mr. Hurley. One view is that it will divide the opposition to the latter, and nominate him; the other is that it will divide the Malheur county vote and nominate Mr. Ellis.

Which of these classes of political prognosticators is correct, the vote alone will determine. The acceptance of either requires the belief in conditions that hardly exist. For example there is not a great deal of basis for assuming that Malheur county voters are united on either Malheur county man; the very fact that Mr. Crandall has entered the race would indicate that; another is that Senator Hurley is so unpopular with so large a number of his constituents that a division of their number would elect Mr. Ellis.

These are political reasons and will not appeal to the average voter who votes not for political reasons but for the man or principle for which he stands.

So far as ability is concerned either Mr. Ellis or Mr. Hurley are equal to the task. The same can be said of Mr. Crandall, for he does not lack ability. The objection that can be raised against him is that lack of the congenial temperament which permits of co-operation with others by which alone work for the benefit of the district can be secured.

The one objection that Ontario and the Snake river valley has to Senator Hurley is that caused by his failure to place Ontario, Nyssa and the Dead Ox Flat and the Jordan Valley country on the road map in the 1917 session. The fact that Vale was twice named in the bill and this section ignored was an apparent injustice, that has militated to the injury of this vicinity for years. All the recognition that this section has received has come thru work, time, and the expenditure of money that would have been needless had the road system as later adopted by the commission been provided in the original draft of the bill, in which Senator Hurley played a prominent part.

It is true that it is possible that this was but an oversight easily explained in the fact that the measure was rushed thru the house in the closing hours of the session following a long conference at Portland.

This is the explanation that Mr. Hurley makes, and in justice to him, the Argus is willing to let the matter rest there. However, since that did happen, and the importance of having the Old Oregon Trail cross Dead Ox Flat made no impression on his mind at that time, the senator is not in a position to claim credit for having put Ontario, Dead Ox Flat and Nyssa on the road map. His claim must rest on other grounds.

There is no doubt that Senator Hurley was a material factor in securing State Highway money for this county last year, and he should be credited with that work; but that he was more influential than other men who appeared before the State Highway commission is an open question.

The Oregon Voter describes the Senator as an efficient legislator, and no doubt he is; but that efficiency is not unattainable by his opponents.

After giving Senator Hurley just

credit for the work he has done, The Argus is frank to admit that it believes that Mr. Ellis with his ability and personality would be as efficient and as capable a senator as Mr. Hurley. It further believes that should Mr. Ellis be nominated that the Snake River Valley precincts would be justly dealt with. We believe that he is that kind of a man, and this section is not asking for special favors.

The Argus also believes that since the situation has come about as it has, with very evident factional fighting against Mr. Hurley in his home town, that he will be more careful in dealing with this section than he was in the 1917 session; for he realizes that this section can be overlooked as it was then.

Mayor Jones' proposal to increase the bonded indebtedness, while it may have technical objectionable features, yet it is apparent that it is the only solution of the difficult position in which the city finds itself.

The cause of the present troubles where the Argus has long contended the trouble could be found, in too low a valuation upon the property within the city limits, that is taken as a whole.

There are some classes of property that are assessed equitably while others are on the rolls at but a small fraction of their sale value. This is true not only in Ontario but in the county and state. The people are just beginning to be aware of this fact; all of the public servants who have work to do in connection with administering public affairs realize it.

For example it is said that a Malheur county ranch which recently sold for \$50,000 was on the rolls of the county for only \$5,000; and many similar instances are related in common report.

What is the result? Other properties which are on the roll, as they should be, are called upon to stand the burden of a high levy and that is what makes their owners "kick" on high taxes.

The valuation is the essential element in the scheme of taxation. If it is too low the money needed must come from a high levy, and therefore when the valuations are inequitable the higher the levy the greater the injustice to men whose property is fairly valued.

What the people want is justice. We believe most people want just that and no more. We are not a nation of tax dodgers. Our present valuations show too great a difference in values and that causes the distrust that impels the thoughtless to criticize all public officials, fight taxation and generally oppose all methods of equalizing the levies.

It is apparent that Ontarians generally want to proceed to improve the city with pavement improvements, with the purchase of fire equipment adequate to the city; to provide ultimately for a low pressure irrigating system and retire the present city warrants which will soon lose their market value unless funded.

While this notion is evident, and while valuations are as low as they are the 40 per cent limitation is not what it appears to be. If the city's valuations were on a right basis

the Argus would be opposed to so great an increase but since they are not, what can be done but proceed? If the people want the improvements they will vote to change the limit; if they do not want them they will not. And even after the limit is raised the Council could not proceed to issue the bonds until they are

proposed and the specific purpose is named. So far as selling the bonds is concerned there is no need to worry so far as the paving bonds are concerned; nor for the fire truck either. The companies providing these will care for them; but on the low pressure water system, that is another question.

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People's ideas are changing, too.

They're beginning to figure out how much it is costing them to keep a car. And the man who is doing the greatest amount of figuring is the man with the moderate-price car.

There still seems to be a notion in some quarters that any tire is good enough for a small car.

That's not what the man who owns it thinks.

In recommending and selling U. S. Tires we are trying to see his side of the propo-

sition—finding out what he wants in a tire and giving him that.

III

Large or small, U. S. Tires are built to only one standard of quality—the standard that produced the first straight side automobile tire, the first pneumatic truck tire.

Every tire that bears the name "U. S." is built the best way its makers know how. It isn't the car, but the man who owns the car, that counts with the oldest and largest rubber concern in the world.

IV

As representatives of U. S. Tires in this town, we offer you the benefit of our experience and advice in settling your tire problem.

Select your tires according to the roads they have to travel:

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For ordinary country roads—The U. S. Chain or Usco.

For front wheels—The U. S. Plain.

For best results—everywhere—U. S. Royal Cords.



ROYAL CORD - NOBBY-CHAIN-USCO-PLAIN

ANNOUNCEMENT

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We will have expert electricians ready to solve your problems from house wiring to motor troubles. Let us furnish an estimate on your next job.

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United States Tires
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